

I will be glad to answer any questions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any questions of the spokesman of the Committee?

Delegate Beachley.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: May I ask two questions, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN: State the questions.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: My questions, Delegate Mitchell, you spoke of the distressed areas throughout the State of Maryland and the first question that I want to ask you is in relation to these distressed areas.

What would you consider is the annual income of these people in these distressed areas that might be classified as low income families or impoverished families? What was the amount?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: I would use the same standard that the Social Security Administration, U. S. Department of Labor, and other agencies of our state and federal government have devised as a standard to measure poverty and that is an income to a family of three thousand dollars a year or under.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Beachley.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: My second question, Mr. Chairman.

You mentioned some statistics about unemployment throughout the United States, but I think we ought to bring this down to the State of Maryland. How many impoverished families, families with incomes below three thousand dollars a year are there in the State of Maryland?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: There are one hundred and sixteen thousand three hundred fifty-one families, fifteen per cent of the population of the State of Maryland which today have incomes which are less than three thousand dollars per year. Of that number, twenty-eight thousand have incomes of less than a thousand. That is families, not individuals. Thirty-seven thousand have incomes of less than two thousand dollars a year, and forty-nine thousand have incomes of less than three thousand, between two thousand and three thousand a year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Beachley.

DELEGATE BEACHLEY: Mr. President, I do have one more question. Re-

garding that three thousand dollars, do you have any idea how many might be in a family?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: I believe the standard is a family of four.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions of the spokesman for the Committee?

Delegate Murray.

DELEGATE D. MURRAY: Can you tell me, Delegate Mitchell, since you have figures readily at your fingertips, can you tell me how many of those people are farm people?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mitchell.

DELEGATE MITCHELL: I do not have that broken down as to Maryland, but I can tell you that in Maryland it is pretty well consistent with the national figures. But our farm families, since the Korean War, have decreased from fourteen per cent to seven per cent of our total population, and to get away from poverty in the farms, the population is migrating to the cities, comprising a hard core of unemployed people without skills. This has no relation to race. It is true of all farm people.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Dorothy Murray.

DELEGATE D. MURRAY: I will make a comment later. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there other questions of the spokesman for the Committee?

Apparently none.

Delegate Kiefer, do you desire to offer your amendment now?

DELEGATE KIEFER: Mr. Chairman, I offer the amendment that has been previously passed out as Amendment E.

THE CHAIRMAN: This will be Amendment No. 14.

The Clerk will read the amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 14 to Committee Recommendation R&P-2 by Delegate Kiefer.

On page 3, strike out all of section 9 Economic Opportunity, comprising lines 22 through 30, inclusive, and insert in lieu